

## THE VIDEO WARPS

THE JUDGES' WORDS

He Corrects a Statement in Regard  
to His Conduct.

POLICE COURT VAN LATE AGAIN

A Bicycle and Church Work Too  
Much for the Driver.

UNIMPORTANT CASES

Driver Tompkins, who has charge of one of the Police Court vans, was no earlier yesterday than he was the day before, and the result was that the prisoners who were convicted late in the day had to remain in the toils until nearly 5 o'clock, when they should have been in jail or the workhouse more than an hour earlier. The cause of this delay was due entirely to the driver, and not to the court officers, for the latter made every possible effort to get the vehicle, but failed until late in the day.

Tompkins, although not a young man, is a bicycle rider, and is engaged in church work in South Washington, and this combination, the officers think, caused the delay.

William Johnson, a colored man, who had been in court on a charge of carrying a pistol, was not among those who were sent down, for, although the evidence was against him, the jury and returned the surprising verdict "Not guilty." Judge Miller was taken completely by surprise by the verdict, and so expressed himself.

Complaint had been made to Policeman Foley that there was a colored man in a cart with a pistol in his pocket, and Johnson proved to be the man in the cart.

"And I saw him throw the pistol away," was the evidence of a reputable citizen.

**A Surprising Verdict.**

After thirty minutes' deliberation the verdict was rendered, and Judge Miller took occasion to denounce the finding of the jury by talking to the defendant.

"You have been acquitted," the judge told him, "but you made a narrow escape. In my opinion, you are guilty."

"But," said Lawyer Moss, his counsel, "the jury has said the contrary."

"I can't help what the jury says," remarked the judge. "I want to say to you, Johnson, that because you escaped this time you need not think you will get off every time."

In conclusion the judge said he could not understand why such a verdict should have

protect the citizens, and was free from the responsibility for this verdict.

The trial continued until the foreman opened Judge Miller took occasion to deny the accuracy of the report of the Johnson case as printed in the *Chicago Herald* paper. In so far as the language attributed to him by the collection of the press was concerned.

The judge read the objectionable part of the account of the trial, as follows:

"I shut up the fellow who called me a villain; you are just as guilty of carrying this revolver as you could be; angrily commanded the jury to get up."

"But, your honor, the jury says no." Lawyer Moss interposed.

"Shut up," his honor snapped out. "I don't know what the jury says."

Judge Miller said it was because of the language attributed to him that he desired to see the sentence published in a public manner. In doing so publication in a public manner, in doing so publication in a public manner, he fully realized the right of the press to criticize the action of the court and for the many uniform courtesies which he had shown to the press.

It is thankful, but in this matter it is not a question of criticism. He desired to say that the language as the article attributed to him, was not his, and anything that could have been construed into such language, and he was incapable of such language.

The judge said he was under the impression that the prisoner was guilty, and the jury had acquitted him. Not wanting to be understood as having been under the impression that he had fooled the court as well as the jury he took occasion to make such remarks.

In the administration of the court's affairs Judge Miller said he knows no color, and all alike. The use of such language as was put in his mouth would not only be indecorous, but would also be reprehensible to him. He thought this was the proper way to disavow it.

**Wanted a Shirt and Got One.**

John Mahoney, a Capitol Hill bricklayer, was in the toils on a charge of vagrancy, and he seemed very much offended at the idea of being charged with such an offense.

"I'm not a vagrant," he answered. "I'm a working man, and have a good home."

"This man," said the judge yesterday, "was the complaint of Policeman H. H. Hill, and found him in the back yard of a house near 18th and E streets."

"Was he drunk?"

"He was not exactly drunk, but he was suffering from the effects of a hurt and a fall."

"I wasn't begging," said the prisoner. "I'm a bricklayer by trade, and I went to the court to get a green shirt to make a good appearance when I went in search of work."

"Was the shirt on the line?"

"No, your honor," he replied when they lived on Capitol Hill, and thought they would let me have a shirt."

"This man," said the judge, "said they don't know him," the officer told the court, and they also said that they are unable to get

**Disorder and Profanity.**

William Scott and Della Rich, a colored couple, appeared in the toils because they had engaged in a street fight.

"The trouble happened about 8 o'clock Thursday morning," said the policeman, "and I arrested them for disorderly conduct."

"What were they doing?"

"Passing blows."

"I didn't strike him until after he struck me," said Della.

The man disorderly in addition to the fighting, and the court fined them \$3 each.

Henry Pinkert, a young colored man, who patronizes a beer garden near 20th and M streets, was in the pen this morning because his language in the beer garden had been improper.

"He called me a ——" said the wife of the proprietor of the beer garden. "He had a bottle of beer in his hand, and he said it again. Then he told me he did not have to work, for he had girls who supported him."

"What have you to say about this?" the court asked.

"I ain't guilty."

"Had you been drinking?"

"I had four or five drinks."

"Then I guess you don't remember. You will have to pay a fine of \$5."

Benjamin Ferguson failed to answer when he was called to answer a charge of disorderly conduct, and his collateral was forfeited.

**Michael Was Irritated.**

Georgetown was represented in court by Michael O'Donoghue, against whom there was a charge of disorderly conduct. He had collected \$10 for a dance, and he appeared to make a legal battle for his money.

"Had you been drinking?" asked the court when Policeman Burrows had related his complaint.

"I was sick," he answered. "When I started drinking I didn't drink, and still feeling sick I took another."

"What did you have all this trouble about?"

"I had heard that two married men had been loafing in the store where my sister and a young lady friend are, and yesterday I found one of them there."

"What was the trouble?"

"If I did, I don't recollect," he answered. "The policeman put the cuffs on me, and I was afraid to say anything that I don't remember what was said."

"I'm afraid the whisky was what caused your trouble," said the court. A fine of \$5 or fifteen days was imposed.

"Not guilty," said Lawyer Jones, when William Smith, colored, was arraigned for being drunk.

"I'm guilty of loud talking," said the prisoner.